



# THE FOPABL HOOT

ALL THE NEWS THAT'S FIT TO HOOT!



Vol. 2 No. 2

November 15, 2018

## **Our Campaign for a Permanent Library is off and running!**

Expect to find reports on the website in December and plan to attend the next meeting on January 10<sup>th</sup>, when we hope to have a long time employee of the Rockridge Branch who was an employee of that branch during their campaign for a new library, and who will share information about their successful efforts that resulted in the 1996 opening of the new building on College Avenue.



In December, check [www.fopabl.org](http://www.fopabl.org) for information from the Finance Committee, the Development Committee, the Political Committee, the Site Committee, and the Outreach Committee.

Get involved! Join a committee! Send your contact info to [contact@fopabl.org](mailto:contact@fopabl.org) and indicate your area of interest.

*I have always imagined that Paradise will be a kind of library.*  
Jorge Luis Borges

## **Your 2018-9 Property Tax Statement**

In June of 2018, when Measure D passed, it added \$150 a year to your property tax to keep our libraries open and functioning. So you will see that amount on your 2018-2019 Property Tax statements.

Measure D included exemptions for low-income households and for low-income **senior** households if you apply for the exemption. The application form is not available as we go to press with this month's newsletter because the City of Oakland Finance Department is still working on an update of the form, but FOPABL will send an email with more information and a link to the form to use as soon as it is available.

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## **Something for the Kids**

Piedmont Avenue branch library has so many programs and events for children one could have a monthly column only about them.

For instance, St. Leo's School fifth graders have a time set aside for them every month to hear a story and to check out books. And they do check out books, by the armful. And Piedmont Avenue Elementary School, right next door to the library, has a total of nine classes, ranging from kindergarten through fifth grade coming in each month where they listen to, read and take home stories.

Other programs, throughout the Oakland library system, offer listening, reading and checkout opportunities to children of all ages, starting from the time even before they can walk. This early exposure of babies and youngsters to the pleasure that books can bring helps encourage them to explore on their own. Some librarians incorporate sing-along music and clapping hands in their programs, giving the kids an opportunity to have fun with the sounds. That is important because singing children's songs breaks words into sounds they can imitate.

Then there's Baby Café every month at Piedmont Gardens, a retirement community. Moms, dads, grandparents bring their pre- school children to interact with residents, hear the live music and crawl around on the covered floor. At one meeting, a pre-toddler girl crawled over to the guitar players and pulled herself up in an attempt to pluck the strings herself. Others stared wide-eyed at the music makers.

This early exposure to live music helps expose youngsters to language in a different way and with different words than they might hear at home. Despite the name, Baby Café is open to anyone who wants to spend a delightful hour singing along and watching kids have a great time.

As we always say, this is not your grandma's library.

*by Ruby Long, a neighbor whose work has appeared in local and national publications*



Fun at Baby Cafe



**The Book Worm Recommends**

**The Middleman by Olen Steinhauer**

## **FBI agents...heroes or villains?**

In the United States in 2017, thousands of members of a national protest group, the Massive Brigade, suddenly disappear. Their charismatic leader has been preaching the non-violent restructuring of a US government that benefits the rich at the expense of everyone else. Special FBI agent Rachel Proulx, an expert on protest movements, is assigned to investigate the disappearances and to figure out what is going on.

Rachel quickly discovers that she has two problems—unexplained violence within the peaceful Massive Brigade *and* unwarranted, brutal retaliation within the FBI. First, an anonymous phone call claims that the Massive Brigade has a missile and several political assassinations are pinned on them. Then Rachel learns that FBI lawmen have been told to shoot to kill in a planned capture of peaceful protestors. As Rachel unravels the contradictions, FBI agents request her silence and threaten reprisals if she refuses.

This is a thoroughly contemporary thriller with events and characters pulled from the news we hear every day. Who can you trust? Who is doing the right thing? We go on the run with Rachel and are just as confused as she is about why the Massive Brigade and the FBI have both become violent. This fast-paced narrative keeps us looking over our shoulders until help arrives in the nick of time.

*by Ann. P. McCauley*

*Ann studied Anthropology at Cal and works in international health. She loves stories with sympathetic, wise characters who engage in humorous conversations and travel to exotic places.*

## **What's Happening at the Library**

### **Ongoing Events – every week**

**Wednesdays at 10:15 am – Toddler Storytime**  
**Wednesdays at 11:00 am – Pre-School Storytime**  
**Fridays at 3:30 pm – Build Fridays, Legos & More**  
**Saturdays at 10:30 am – Baby Café**  
**Saturdays at 2:30 pm – eBook Help**

### **Events between November 15 & December 31st:**

**Thursday, November 15 at 10:30am Gardening Workshop for Toddlers**

Gardening is a perfect sensory activity for all ages! From the smell of the soil to the sight of beautiful flowers and the taste of herbs, all senses will be engaged in this class. The workshop will include storytime, songs, and a hands-on activity. Kids have the opportunity to get a little dirty, so please dress appropriately. If it's rainy we'll hold the workshop indoors.

**Saturday, December 1 at 1pm Do-it-Yourself Cardmaking: Iris Folding**

**Free**  
with your library card!

**hoopla**

[oaklandlibrary.org/hoopla](http://oaklandlibrary.org/hoopla)  
Enjoy music, movies,  
audiobooks, and e-books

Use a beautiful, yet simple technique called Iris Folding to create the focal point for a card. We'll provide all the materials just bring yourself and a friend if you'd like.

**Saturday, December 1 at 3:30pm Ornament Making for Children at Key Route Plaza (41st and Piedmont Avenue)**

Make a beautiful ornament for your home. The activity will take place prior to the Avenue's annual tree lighting and visit from Santa. Go to [www.piedmontavenue.org](http://www.piedmontavenue.org) for more information about that event.

**Tuesday, December 11 at 6:30 pm Book Discussion with Suzanne Gordon  
Author of *Wounds of War: How the VA Delivers Health, Healing and Hope to the Nation's Veterans***

Join a discussion about the future of veterans' healthcare in America with a noted advocate opposed to the Trump Administration's outsourcing of health care services for nine million veterans. A timely subject with an expert who has written about veterans' affairs for The New York Times, The Nation and many other publications.

**Thursday, December 13 at 3:30pm Teen Program**

Make your own lip balm; we will supply all the material.

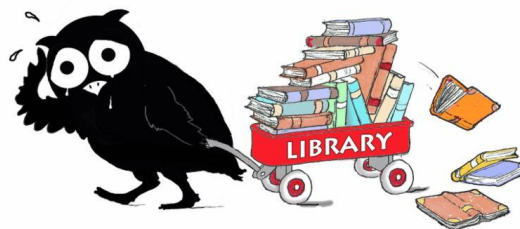
**Thursday, December 27 at 3pm & Wednesday, January 2 at 3pm Winter Break Chess**

Drop in and play a game with chess tutor Dave! Learn the basics or brush up on your skills. All ages welcome.

Unless noted, all these activities and events take place at the **Piedmont Avenue Branch**, 80 Echo Avenue, Oakland CA 94611

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**PIEDMONT AVENUE BRANCH LIBRARY**



**OUR BOOKS NEED A PERMANENT HOME!**